

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5129

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL ZAGREB

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EO 11652 NA

TAGS: PFOR YO UR

SUBJ: SOVIET MEDIA GIVE OFFENSE

REF: BELGRADE 6774

1. WHILE YUGOSLAVS PUBLICLY EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH "PRAVDA" ARTICLE ON COMINFORMISTS, THEY HAVE BEEN LESS THAN ECSTATIC ABOUT TWO OTHER RECENT ITEMS IN SOVIET PRESS--ARTICLE WHICH IS JUDGED TO SLIGHT YUGOSLAVIA'S PECULIAR FORM OF SOCIALISM AND BOOK WHICH IS CRITICIZED FOR ITS VIEW OF RELATIONS AMONG SOCIALIST STATES. PUBLICATIONS, AND YUGOSLAV COMMENTARIES ON THEM, REFLECT FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCES IN YUGOSLAV AND SOVIET VIEWS WHICH CONTRAST WITH SUPERFICIAL WARMTH OF RHETORIC ATTENDANT ON MINIC VISIT TO MOSCOW.

2. DECEMBER 24 ISSUE OF SARAJEVO NEWSPAPER (OSLOBODJENJE" REPORTS ON ARTICLE ABOUT YUGOSLAV ECONOMY IN NOVEMBER ISSUE OF "NEW TIMES". COMMENTATOR JOSIP FINCI EXPRESSES AMASEMENT THAT SOVIET AUTHOR COULD DISCUSS YUGOSLAV ECONOMY AND SAY NOTHING ABOUT SELF-MANAGEMENT. FINCI SAYS ARTICLE GIVE IMPRESSION THAT SUCCESSES OF YUGOSLAV ECONOMY ARE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RESULT OF ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTIVES AND THAT MAIN DIFFERENCES

BETWEEN YUGOSLAV SYSTEM AND TRADITIONAL SOCIALIST MODEL ARE PRESENCE OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND MANY PRIVATE FARMS IN YUGOSLAVIA. COMMENT IS ENTITLED "INCORRECT INFORMATION".

3. IN DECEMBER 23 ISSUE OF "POLITIKA", MOSCOW CORRESPONDENT RISTO BAJALSKI REVIEWS NEW SOVIET BOOK ENTITLED "SOCIALISM AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS", WHICH HE DESCRIBES AS "PART OF INTENSIFIED EFFORTS AIMED AT COORDINATING THE SOVIET OUTLOOK ON RELATIONS BETWEEN SOCIALIST COUNTRIES". BAJALSKI SAYS THAT BOOK CALLS FOR "RELATIONS OF A NEW TYPE" BETWEEN ALL SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, WHICH, IN BAJALSKI'S OPINION, MEAN RELATIONS LIKE THOSE BETWEEN MEMBERS OF WARSAW PACT. HE CRITICIZES BOOK FOR ONE-SIDED INTERPRETATION OF "SOCIALIST INTERNATIONALISM" AND ASSIERTS THAT "THERE IS NO HIGHER INTEREST AND GREATER INTERNATIONALIST DUTY THAN THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EVERY COMMUNIST PARTY BEFORE THE WORKING CLASS OF ITS OWN COUNTRY".
SILBERMAN

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